



January 31st



On this day in...

2019: Coastal thunderstorms produced many cloud to ground strikes. Lightning struck a tree and damaged a fence in San Diego County.

2016: A powerful storm with a surface low that rapidly deepened in the Southern California Bight brought an exceptionally strong cold front with widespread damaging wind gusts of 40-70 mph from the coast to the mountains. A broken line of thunderstorms formed along the front and combined with post frontal winds. Over 500 downed trees caused extensive damage. One woman was killed and two were injured when a pine tree eight feet in diameter crushed four cars in Pacific Beach.

2003: It was 96° in Santa Ana, 92° in Escondido and El Cajon, and 90° in Chula Vista and Vista; each is the highest temperature on record for January.

2002: Temperatures plummeted on 1/30 and on this day. It was 13° at Shelter Valley, 17° at Campo, 22° at Ramona and 28° at Escondido. Crops were damaged in northern San Diego County.



Winds and waves removed the navigation tower from the Mission Bay Jetty in 2016.

1979: A winter storm that started on 1/30 and ended on this day spread two to four inches of rainfall in 24 hours over much of coastal Southern California, and two inches of snow in Palm Springs. On this day snow fell heavily in Palm Springs and eight inches fell at Lancaster. All major interstates into LA (I-5, I-15, and I-10) were closed. Snow drifts shut down Interstate 10 on both sides of Palm Springs, isolating the city. Schools were closed and hundreds of cars were abandoned.



An evening thunderstorm drops lightning into the ocean off Dana Point while city lights light up the sky on this day in 2007.

A snow and rain mix was reported in Borrego Springs. Mt. Laguna received two feet of snow and Julian one foot. Winds up to 60 mph blew in the San Diego Mountains. A tornado touched down in Santa Ana, and possibly occurred elsewhere. Golf ball size hail and widespread snow were also reported during the storm. 4.82 inches of rain fell in National City, 4.25 inches in La Mesa, 3.30 inches at SDSU, and 3.78 inches in El Cajon. Flooding occurred along Silver Strand highway, in Fashion Valley, also in Spring Valley, Lemon Grove, Lakeside and Carlsbad. Lake Hodges overflowed. Numerous power outages resulted. 2.57 inches of rain fell in San Diego on this day, the seventh wettest calendar day on record and the wettest January day. 56 inches of snow fell in Big Bear Lake from this day to 2/2/1979, the greatest storm snowfall on record. 26 inches fell on this day, the greatest daily snowfall on record for January and the second greatest daily amount on record. This snowfall also occurred on 2/17/1990. It snowed 1.5 inches in Palm Springs, the second greatest daily snowfall on record. The only other daily measurable snowfall on record was 2 inches (the greatest daily amount on record) on 1/11/1930.